



Sermon Notes

Topic: God's Heart for Community

Bible Passage: Acts 1:6-8

Preacher: Ps Sam Toms

Date: 7 June 2026

Sermon Summary – *God's Heart for Community*

At the heart of Scripture is not merely the story of individuals finding God, but of God forming a people. From the very beginning, humanity was created in the image of a communal God — Father, Son, and Spirit — revealing that we were made for relationship, belonging, and shared purpose. Sin fractured community, bringing division, isolation, pride, and pain, yet God's response throughout history has always been to gather, restore, and form a people for Himself. Through Israel, through Jesus, and ultimately through the Spirit-formed church, God continually calls people into a new kind of community marked by love, unity, restoration, and mission. Jesus did not simply save us *from* sin — He saved us *into* a family. The church is not a religious gathering or optional extra to faith; it is God's chosen expression of His character on earth. As we journey through Acts, we see that revival, discipleship, mission, generosity, leadership, and spiritual growth all happen in the context of community. The invitation for us is not guilt-driven participation, but an epiphany — a revelation of God's deep love for His people and our place within His family.

John 17:20–21 “That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you...”

Big Idea - The church is not just somewhere we go — it is something we belong to and become together.

1. We Were Made for Community | **Read: Genesis 1:26–27**

God created humanity in His image — and God Himself exists in relationship.

Question:

- ☒ Why do humans have such a deep longing to belong?
- ☒ How has healthy community shaped your life or faith?

Reflection: Do I see community as essential or optional?

2. Sin Breaks Community | **Read: Genesis 3:1–13**

Sin brought shame, blame, division, and isolation. Church can be hard because people are imperfect — but God still chooses imperfect people to build His church.

Question:

- ☒ Have past hurts shaped how you see church?
- ☒ Why is community still worth pursuing despite disappointment?

Reflection: Am I allowing hurt to keep me distant?



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3. Jesus Creates a New Community | Read: Ezekiel 36:26–27 | Read: John 17:20–23

Jesus forms a people united not by preference or personality, but by transformed hearts and the Spirit.

Question:

- ☒ What do you think Jesus meant by “that they may be one”?
- ☒ What gets in the way of unity today?

Reflection: Do I approach church as a service or a spiritual family?

4. Discipleship Happens Together | Read: Ephesians 4:15–16 | Read: Hebrews 10:24–25

Growth happens in community. We are strengthened, challenged, encouraged, and sharpened by one another.

Question:

- ☒ Why can faith become isolated so easily?
- ☒ How have others helped shape your walk with Jesus?

Reflection: Am I intentionally growing with others?

5. Acts: A New Kind of People | Read: Acts 2:42–47

The early church gathered, prayed, shared, worshipped, and served together.

Question:

- ☒ What stands out to you about the Acts community?
- ☒ What would it look like for us to live this more deeply?

Reflection: How can I help build stronger community?

Closing Challenge

Be honest: **How do I currently view church?**

- ☒ A place I attend? ☒ A service I consume? ☒ A family I belong to? ☒ A mission I help build?

Prayer

“Lord, give us Your heart for Your people. Help us not just attend community, but love it, build it, and belong deeply within it. Amen.”